

Left-Handed Stone Slingers.

The right hand doubtless owes something of its pre-eminence to the Bible. The Hebrews singled it out for special honor, and the Scriptures contain quite a hundred references in which "the right hand" is made the type and symbol of everything noble, praiseworthy and desirable. It is worth noting, however, that the tribe of Benjamin once boasted 700 left-handed slingers who "could sling stones to a hair's breadth and not miss," and that among the "mighty men and helpers" of King David were many who "could use both the right hand and the left in hurling stones and shooting arrows with the bow."

No More School Slates.

Remember the old school slates, bound in red flannel to prevent the noise of slate rattling that used to become unbearable, until manufacturers found how to muffle them? Stores selling school supplies used to carry great stocks of them, for it was a rare day in a room that did not see a slate or two broken; but where are they all now? Since the boards of health decided that they were insanitary and decreed against them, the whole tribe has disappeared.

That he had invented a method for sending pictures by wire in their natural colors is the claim of an Italian electrician.



down the throat of a "gapey" chicken destroys the worms and saves the chick's life. A few drops in the drinking water

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SAW DUST MADE INTO FOOD FOR MAN AND BEAST.

(New York World.)

Why should man laboriously till the fields? For food.

That is the present occupation of more than two-thirds of the working population of the earth.

This means all the workers among more than a billion people.

The value of their product runs into hundreds of billions of dollars. The farm products of the United States alone are worth nearly ten billions a year now.

All the while there are billions of food material going to waste in the jungles of the tropics.

In South America, in Central Africa, in parts of India and Burmah and Central America vegetation is so luxuriant that it simply chokes itself. A clearing left unattended is obliterated in a year.

Hitherto there has been no means of utilizing this tremendous waste. Now a means has been found, and now that a good beginning has been made the new industry will grow rapidly.

First of all a process has been invented for converting sawdust into sugar. All that is needful is to put the sawdust into a weak solution of sulphurous acid and put this under pressure equivalent to about 100 pounds of steam pressure.

Then the acid is separated out, and what is left is a very friable sort of cellulose fiber which is one-quarter a low-grade sugar. This is mixed with a little molasses or some kind of crude oil to form a product known as saccharose.

BETTER THAN OATS.

Weight for weight this is better food for cattle and horses than the best grade of oats. It has been tried in England and as soon as the animals get accustomed to the new food, which takes about a month, they begin to gain in weight and strength. Of course, they cannot as yet feed exclusively upon this, but already thousands of tons of this saccharose have been used in a mixed diet.

A colt which was dying was put on this diet and in six months gained 256 pounds, is now in a fine condition and gaining steadily.

Colliers thrive upon it much more than upon ordinary fare. Cattle fed upon it make a high quality of milk and butter, and hogs so fed produce an exceptionally fine quality of bacon.

Besides the sugar obtained from this process there are by-products of great value, for example, fusel oil, which has gone up so rapidly in price and is now worth \$700 a ton.

From the sawdust so treated they can also make a good grade of brewing sugar, a material for roads, large quantities of the material being used in a new process of making synthetic rubber. Also linoleum and a very cheap and effective kind of electrical insulation. Also butyric acid, which is used in giving oleomargarine a butter taste. Also anacetic acid, furfural and formaldehyde.

SUGAR FERMENTABLE

Also this sugar is fermentable and will produce about thirty to thirty-five gallons of alcohol per ton of saw dust. And these are only a few of the things which have been tried so far.

The process, as may be imagined, is very cheap and all that is needed is unlimited quantities of cheap wood and corresponding quantities of sulphurous acid.

Tons of sulphur products are now blown away into the air in various industrial processes.

Now the wonderful thing about the jungles of the tropics is that a large part of them are situated upon or close to plateaus, or close to mountain ranges and, of course, to have a jungle the rainfall must be heavy.

This means enormous quantities of water power.

In the heart of South America, in Central Africa and on the slopes of the Himalayas are an extraordinary number of cataracts, many of them as large or larger than Niagara, and yielding enough power to turn ten times all the present machinery of the world.

These waterfalls are the solution of life and industry in the tropics. They will be harnessed like Niagara to make electricity.

Electricity is the most easily transported kind of power known. Quantities of it sufficient to run great mills and railroad trains and mines can be carried for one hundred miles or more over a wire.

ELECTRICITY WILL WORK.

It will not be human labor which will cut up the vast jungles of the tropics and convert them into sawdust, but electricity from the waterfalls. In the steaming tropics the combination of heat and humidity makes work extremely difficult. But even a white man can live in the tropics if he can sit in a breeze from an electric fan and has nothing more to do than to turn little switches which control his water wheels and dynamos and transmission lines.

Even the negroes of the tropics will work if they have nothing more to do than to sit in a comfortable seat and guide huge sawing machines which will go through the jungle as a mowing machine goes through a field of wheat.

All the hard work will be done with the electrical hands and arms, and the savages of the jungle who never heard of electricity will soon be working with this mighty power to bring to the use of man the greatest store of vegetation which exists upon earth.

This jungle wood will probably be chewed up into sawdust and worked up into saccharose and sugar and the rest, on the spot, or near by.

The product will then be shipped to the temperate zone and fed to the cattle and horses and hogs and other animals which graze upon the then untitled fields of Europe and America.

This is the first part, and this part is near at hand. But it is only the first part. The rest will be still more wonderful.

WHAT IS MEAT?

What is meat? Meat is just a kind of nitrified sugar. If you could take the nitrogen, which forms four-fifths of the air we breathe, and turn this into nitrates, such as come from the guano beds of South America, and then compound these nitrates with sugar and with phosphoric acid you would

have meat, and the albumen of eggs, and so on.

Nature can do this, and does do it in the plants and in the animals, and in our human bodies.

Although this fact has long been known the process was regarded as something very mysterious, and as a vital act which could not be imitated by man.

But man can now make synthetic indigo and a whole line of brilliant artificial dyes far more varied than nature ever dreamed of making. And he can make artificial sugar, although it is at present dear.

This is only the beginning of the new synthetic chemistry. It will not be a very long time now before a way is found to nitrify and phosphorize this sugar so as to make artificial meat. We shall beat Nature at her own game.

At present nitrate is very dear—\$35 a ton—and practically all of it is brought from Chili and Peru.

But in Norway and now down in South Carolina they are making nitrate in considerable quantities by electricity. At present it is not cheap and will not reduce the price.

NITRATE FROM GAS.

But there are now two chemical processes in commercial operation which promise very well, and only recently a German professor has discovered a way of making nitrate from the waste gas from furnaces and blast furnaces. He explodes the gas with a mixture of air just as in an ordinary automobile engine.

All this has come within the last ten years. Any day may see a new process which will produce nitrate for a few dollars per ton.

Cheap nitrate and cheap sugar will almost surely mean cheap artificial meat.

At present only about 20 per cent. of the human race has reached any considerable stage of intelligence. More than two-thirds of the earth's population is still steeped in the densest ignorance. Even among the most intelligent nations, like Germany, England and the United States, not a half of one per cent. of the population has any scientific education or any scientific knowledge.

When as much as three per cent. of the population of one-third of the globe is well grounded in physics and chemistry, discovery and invention go on at such a rate that not only our food, but the material for our clothing will be made in vats and furnaces. And a greater part of the material will probably come from these new tropical regions where nature is riotous in its fecundity.

Rest in Forgetfulness.

"Who does not love to shuffle off time and its concerns at intervals—to forget who is president and who is governor, what race he belongs to, what language he speaks—and to listen to the great liquid metronome as it beats its solemn measure, steadily swinging, when the solo or duet of human life begins, and to swing just as steadily after the human chorus has died out and man is a fossil on its shores."—The Autocrat of the Breakfast Table.

Few See Things as They Are.

The mass of mankind will never have any ardent zeal for seeing things as they are; very inadequate ideas will always satisfy them. On these inadequate ideas will always repose, and must repose, the general practice of the world. That is as much as saying that whoever sets himself to see things as they are will find himself one of a very small circle; but it is only by this small circle resolutely doing its own work that adequate ideas will ever get current at all.—Matthew Arnold.

They Take No Chances.

The Chinese blacksmith thinks a great deal of his anatomy, when shoeing horses, which are not numerous in China. He is so skittish in doing a job of shoeing and so dubious about handling the hoofs of the animal, that, when shoeing is required, the horse is strung up with ropes in such a manner as to prevent kicking. No exceptions are made, even though the horse be a scrawny street plug of advanced age.

Reasonably Sure.

The only thing you can tell about a young girl is that when she is fifty years old she will look a great deal as her mother looks now.—Philadelphia Ledger.

The German standard of light measurements is nine-tenths that of the international candlepower.

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PESTS OF SHADE TREE

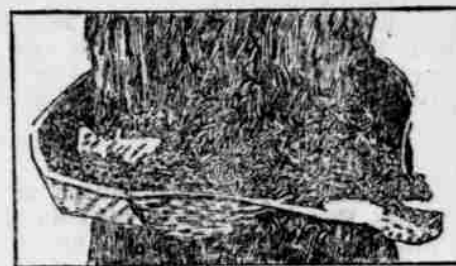
Proper Protection Is Problem of Much Importance.

Sudden Losses Are Frequently Caused by Overwhelming Attacks of Leaf-Eating Insects—Keep Pests in Subjection.

(By S. A. FORBES.)

The protection of the shade trees and ornamental shrubs of our city parks against insects has been for several years a problem of increasing importance. Many of the most desirable trees and shrubs are liable to show destruction by obscure insect pests little understood, if at all, by those immediately concerned.

Trees which have grown for years becoming more attractive, more valuable and more highly valued year by year, begin to weaken and decay, and



A Trap for the Elm Leaf-Beetle, Made of Strawboard and Smeard With Tanglefoot.

the owner does not know why. This is often due to borers or the scale insects or beetles, the presence of which has not been detected or suspected, but which injuries might have been prevented if the facts had been known in time. More sudden losses are caused by overwhelming attacks of leaf-eating insects, which, although conspicuous, are not dealt with because proper measures of procedure are not known.

But, of late years, a great work has been accomplished along this line through proper experiments and observations. Careful examinations are being made of the affected trees and shrubs and the life history of the insects causing the injuries is being studied deeply. This is in order that authorities in control of parks, boulevards and streets, and owners of lawns and other private premises may become posted on the habits and characteristics of the pests, and know how to combat them.

Take, for instance, the elm tree. The spraying of large elms is, of course, a difficult and expensive operation, and the canker-worms, which cause great injury to these trees, are less susceptible to arsenical poisons than many other insects. A cheap and efficient method of protecting the tree is the preparation of adhesive preparations, for trapping the insects which creep up or down the trunks of the trees.

When the elm caterpillars are full grown they leave the tree to pupate in the earth, and the female moth emerging, being wholly without wings, can only reach the tree to lay her eggs by climbing up the trunk. If this is endeavored at the proper time by a sticky band impassable by her, or by young worms just emerging from the egg, the tree is virtually secure against canker-worm injury.

The sticky substance may be applied directly to the bark as a deterrent against the attack of borers, or may be used on bands of paper, tin, or strawboard. For the elm leaf-beetle a trough shaped band, the inside of which is smeared with the



Trap for Elm Leaf-Beetle, Made of Tin—Lower Edge Should Be Secured About the Tree and Crannies Filled in to Prevent Larvae Passing Through.

sticky material, entraps great numbers of the descending larvae. Used in connection with spraying arsenate of lead on the leaves, it affords a very satisfactory means of keeping the elm pests in subjection.

Use for Cull Potatoes.

When potatoes come in, use the small ones that are of the size of marbles for the hens and chicks. Cook them and throw them into the poultry yard, and no preparation will be necessary, as the chicks can easily pick them to pieces. It is economical to use potatoes in this manner, those that are usually unsalable can be converted into eggs and assist in adding to the profit from the farm.

Cowpeas in Corn.

Every farmer should consider the sowing of cowpeas in his corn. The cowpeas, besides enriching the soil with nitrogen, will furnish good winter pasturage, and if the corn is cut for silage the cowpeas will help balance the ration. About the best way to sow the cowpeas is to drill them in between the rows of the corn at the last cultivation of same.

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